

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

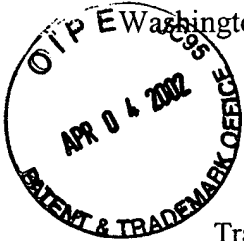
APPLICANTS: Prentice, et al.
SERIAL NUMBER: 09/928,112 EXAMINER: Not Yet Assigned
FILING DATE: August 10, 2001 ART UNIT: 1734
FOR: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR CONTROLLING A DISPENSING SYSTEM

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231



30623

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE



TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Transmitted herewith for filing in the present application are the following documents:

1. Information Disclosure Statement (2 pages), in duplicate;
2. Modified Form 1449/PTO (3 pages) in duplicate; and
3. Return Postcard

No fee is believed to be due at this time. However, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees that may be due to Deposit Account No. 50-0311, Reference No. 17549-109. A duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is enclosed.

If the enclosed papers are considered incomplete, the Mail Room and/or the Application Branch is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at 617/542-6000, Boston, Massachusetts.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas M. Sullivan, Esq. (Reg. No. 39,392)
Attorney for Applicant

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Dated: April 4, 2002

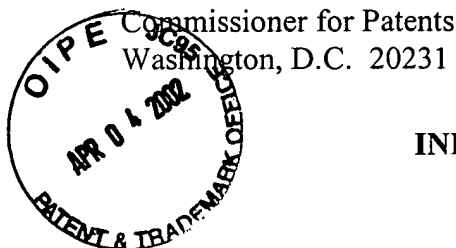
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants hereby make of record the documents listed on the attached modified Form PTO-1449, as well as copies of the listed documents previously submitted to the Patent and Trademark Office in a prior application (Serial No. 09/705,080) and relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. §120.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the above-identified case. Accordingly, no fee or certification is believed required.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner consider completely the cited information, along with any other information, in reaching a determination concerning the patentability of the present claims, and signs the enclosed form PTO-1449 to evidence that the cited information has been fully considered by the Patent and Trademark Office during the examination of this application.

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicants make no representation that: (1) a search has been performed, of the extent of any search performed, or that more relevant information does not exist; (2) the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b); and (3) the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, in fact, prior art as defined by 35 U.S.C. §102.

APPLICANTS:
U.S.S.N.:

Prentice et al.
09/928,112

Notwithstanding any statements by the Applicants, the Examiner is urged to form his/her own conclusion regarding the relevance of the cited information. An early and favorable action is hereby requested.

Please charge any additional fees that may be due, or credit any overpayment of same, to Deposit Account No. 50-0311, Reference No. 17549-109.



Respectfully submitted,

Thomas M. Sullivan, Esq. (Reg. No. 39,392)
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